

## Message Text

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62  
ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /072 W  
----- 066389

R 111545Z NOV 74  
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4169  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES  
AMCONSUL LUANDA  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MASERU  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USUN NEW YORK 757

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0757

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, SCUL, PFOR, SF  
SUBJECT: VORSTER SPEECH ON MAJOR CHANGES WITHIN NEXT  
TWELVE MONTHS

REF: A) STATE 245899 AND B) CAPE TOWN 728

1. THROUGH PRESS, SAG HAS CLARIFIED THAT WHEN VORSTER SPOKE  
OF MAJOR CHANGES WITHIN NEXT SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS DURING  
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HIS SPEECH AT NIGEL NOV 5 (REFTEL B), HE DID NOT RPT NOT

MEAN TO REFER TO SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. IN EDITORIAL NOV 8, AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPER DIE BURGER SAID THAT THOSE WHO IMPLIED VORSTER "VIRTUALLY DELIVERED AN ULTIMATUM TO HIMSELF TO CARRY OUT AN INTERNAL REVOLUTION WITHIN SIX MONTH" HAD PUT A "TOTALLY RIDICULOUS INTERPRETATION" ON WHAT VORSTER SAID. DIE BURGER EMPHASIZED THAT VORSTER WAS SPEAKING "OF SIX MONTHS AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF HIS SOUTHERN AFRICA POLITICS."

2. INITIAL REPORTS IN BOTH AFRIKAANS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS INTERPRETED VORSTER'S REMARKS AS APPLYING TO CHANGES TO SOUTH AFRICA'S INTERNAL AS WELL AS TO ITS EXTERNAL POLICIES. ON NOV 11, CAPE TIMES EDITOR TONY HEARD TOLD POLCOUNSELOR THAT SAG WAS EXERCISED BY THIS INTERPRETATION AND QUICKLY GOT WORD TO AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPERS. HEARD SAID (AND WROTE IN EDITORIAL WHICH HAS APPEARED IN CAPE TIMES) THAT NATIONALIST SOURCES HAVE BEEN AT PAINS TO EMPHASIZE VORSTER WAS REFERRING TO "SURPRISING DEVELOPMENTS" IN SOUTH AFRICA'S RELATIONS WITH BLACK AFRICA.

3. IN VIEW OF OCTOBER 24 SPEECH BY SOUTH AFRICA'S PERMREP TO UN, PIK BOTHA, AND SPEECHES BY CABINET MINISTERS AT CAPE NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS NOVEMBER 6 -- ALL STRESSING NEED FOR NEW APPROACH TO RACE RELATIONS WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA--IT EASY TO UNDERSTAND WHY PRESS INTERPRETED VORSTER'S NIGEL SPEECH AS IT DID. MOREOVER, HIS REMARKS, AS REPORTED BY SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION (SAPA), ARE NOT CLEARLY RESTRICTED TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS. SAPA ACCOUNT READS AS FBLLOWS:

"REFERRING TO THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE WORLD AT PRESENT, MR. VORSTER SAID THE SITUATION WAS EXTREMELY DELICATE, AND THERE WERE MATTERS WHICH COULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC AT THIS STAGE. ONE COULD SPECULATE ABOUT THESE THINGS, HE SAID, BUT HE WISHED TO APPEAL TO ALL POLITICAL COMMENTATORS TO TAKE SOUTH AFRICA'S INTEREST INTO CONSIDERATON WHEN TALKING AND WRITING ABOUT THESE MATTERS."

4. SAPA THEN QUOTED VORSTER AS SAYING: "THERE ARE VERY GOOD REASONS FOR THIS REQUEST. I DO NOT ASK IT ON BEHALF OF MYSELF OR THE NATIONAL PARTY, BUT ON BEHALF OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOUTH AFRICA. THERE WILL ALWAYS BE THOSE WHO WILL PURPOSEFULLY SAY AND WRITE THINGS TO HARM SOUTH AFRICA. MAY APPEAL IS DIRECTED TO THEM. ALL I ASK THEM IS TO GIVE SOUTH AFRICA A CHANCE OF ABOUT SIX MONTHS. I DO NOT ASK MORE THAN THAT. IF SOUTH AFRICA IS GIVEN THAT CHANCE, THEY WILL BE SURPRISED AT WHERE THE COUNTRY WILL STAND IN SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS' TIME."

5. VORSTER DID NOT SPEAK FROM PREPARED TEXT, AND FULL  
ACCOUNT OF HIS NIGEL SPEECH NOT AVAILABLE IN CAPE TOWN.  
EMBASSY ATTEMPTING OBTAIN WHATEVER TEXT AVAILABLE FROM SAG.  
IN MEANTIME, WE WILL TRANSMIT FULL TEXT OF SAPA STORY BY  
SEPTEL.  
HURD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974CAPET00757  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740324-0865  
**From:** CAPE TOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741155/aaaabuem.tel  
**Line Count:** 121  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) STATE 245899 AND B) CAPE TOWN 728  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 MAY 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VORSTER SPEECH ON MAJOR CHANGES WITHIN NEXT TWELVE MONTHS  
**TAGS:** PINT, SCUL, PFOR, SF, (VORSTER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005